

## Message Text

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21

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-04 EUR-08 SS-07 /023 W

----- 106668

R 251630Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4512

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0355

STADIS //////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP, PFOR, SF, RH, US

SUBJECT: CODEL VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA

REF: CAPE TOWN 343

1. CONGRESSMEN JOHN DENT, RICHARD ICHORD, HAROLD RUNNELS, THEIR WIVES, AND CONGRESSIONAL ASSISTANT G. MCCORMACK ARRIVED SOUTH AFRICA MARCH 23 ON DIRECT SAA FLIGHT FROM NEW YORK TO JOHANNESBURG. ARRIVED CAPE TOWN MORNING OF MARCH 24 AND MET BY REPRESENTATIVE OF CAPE TOWN REGIONAL OFFICE, SAG DEPT. OF INFORMATION.

2. CONGRESSMAN DENT, WHO TELEPHONED TO ARRANGE LATE AFTER-NOON CALL AT EMBASSY FOLLOWING INTERVIEW WITH INFORMATION MINISTER CONNIE MULDER, EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT NOT BEING MET BY EMBASSY AS CODEL HAD PROVIDED THEIR ITINERARY TO DEPT. DCM SAID EMBASSY HAD NOT KNOWN CAPE TOWN ARRIVAL FLIGHT AND SUBJECT WAS DROPPED.

3. DURING FRIENDLY AFTERNOON CALL BY CONGRESSMEN AND MCCORMACK, CONGRESSMAN DENT REPEATEDLY STRESSED VITAL IMPORTANCE OF CHROME  
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TO AMERICAN ECONOMY ("MORE IMPORTANT THAN OIL AND A MORE IM-

PORTANT MINERAL THAN GOLD"). DURING DISCUSSION SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS MR.IDENT WONDERED WHAT ALTERNATIVE THERE WAS TO SAG POLICY OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT, THEN LATER OPINED SAG WOULD NOT BE ABLE CONTINUE POLICY ONCE RHODESIA FELL.

4. ASKED WHAT HE THOUGHT OF THEIR PLANS TO VISIT RHODESIA, DCM EXPRESSED VIEW THAT VISIT WOULD BE GROSSLY MISINTERPRETED IN AFRICAN STATES AND COULD HAVE SERIOUS ADVERSE EFFECTS ON SITUATION IN RHODESIA IF IT ENCOURAGED SMITH TO FEEL HE COULD AFFORD TO CONTINUE POSTPONING NEGOTIATION AND IGNORING NEED FOR EVENTUAL SETTLEMENT WITH RHODESIAN AFRICANS. STRESSED SIGNIFICANCE OF FACT THAT TOP SAG LEADERS WERE THEMSELVES PRESSING SMITH TO RECOGNIZE NEED FOR SETTLEMENT AND THAT SAG WAS CONCERNED THAT FAILURE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SETTLEMENT POSSIBILITIES NOW COULD LEAD TO EVENTUAL FULL SCALE WARFARE IN RHODESIA.

5. CONGRESSMAN DENT, WHILE SCOFFING AT ANY SUGGESTION 3 CONGRESSMEN COULD JEOPARDIZE SETTLEMENT POSSIBILITIES, REPLIED THAT THEY WOULD BE TELLING SMITH THAT HE NEEDED TO FIND SOLUTION SOON AS THEY COULD NOT HOLD OFF REPEAL OF BYRD AMENDMENT MUCH LONGER. HE MADE IT CLEAR HIS PRIMARY CONCERN WAS CHROME AND THAT HE REGARDED DEPARTMENT VIEW ON BYRD AMENDMENT AS ONE REQUIRING IMMEDIATE SHORT RANGE SACRIFCE FOR UNCERTAIN LONG TERM GAIN, A POSITION HE REJECTED SINCE OTHER NATIONS WERE NOT MAKING SUCH SACRIFICE AND SINCE IT WOULD NOT RESULT IN ANY FIRMER GUARANTEE THAT OUR LONG TERM NEEDS WOULD BE MET.

6. CODEL SCHEDULE TODAY CALLS FOR CALLS ON LABOR MINISTER VILJOEN, MINES MINISTER KOORNHOF, AND RECTOR VAN DER ROSS OF THE (COLORED) UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN CAPE. AT LUNCH THEY WILL MEET UNITED PARTY PARLIAMENT MEMBERS LIONEL MURRAY AND NIC OLICIER. TOMORROW MARCH 26 THEY VISIT SILVERMINE AS GUESTS OF COMMODORE KINKEAD-WEEKES, COMMANDER OF NAVAL OPERATIONS, LUNCH AT SIMONSTOWN WITH ADMIRAL JOHNSON, CHIEF OF SA NAVY, VISIT SIMONSTOWN DOCKYARD, THEN DEPART ON SAA 340 FOR JOHANNESBURG AT 7:30 P.M.

7. MCCORMACK STARTED PROVIDE COPY OVERALL ITINERARY BUT CONFIDENTIAL

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CONGRESSMAN DENT SEEMED TO PREFER HE NOT DO SO SINCE CONGRESSMAN RUNNELS HAD EXTRA COPY OF CAPE TOWN PROGRAM HE PROVIDED. DURING CONVERSATION, MR. DENT TOLD OTHERS THAT "ANDY" (POSSIBLY E.F. ANDREWS OF ALLEGHENY LUDLUM) "WOULD BE DOWN" ON WEDNESDAY WITH MORE INFORMATION (PRESUMABLY ON RHODESIA TRIP).  
HURD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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